



"Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man."

KILLING ALDERS.

We do not know of any one species of bush that is so extensively spread over the country as the common black alder. It grows at the north and south. It grows in the water, and on the dry land. It grows in the valley and on the hill—in the wood and in the field. Why it should be so abundantly scattered over this part of the earth, we could never ascertain—probably for some useful purpose.

It is a question among farmers—what is the best mode of extirpating them effectually. The best mode that we ever tried, is to have a large stout iron hook made, attach a stout chain and yoke of oxen to it, and tear them out by the roots. If you cannot obtain a hook easily, you can do it pretty well by putting a chain around clumps of them, slip-noose fashion, and then bend the tops over against it in an opposite direction from the oxen and haul them up so.

Many contend that there is a certain time in this month (August) in which if they are cut they will never start again.

There probably is some period during their annual growth, when, if cut down, they will pretty much die out.

Those who are believers in the influence of the moon, assert that it is during the full moon in August, and when the "sign is in the heart."

This is a relic of ancient astrological faith—a faith which was founded in the doctrine that every planet had certain jurisdiction over specified things, and therefore, operations performed in accordance to an exercise of their power would be successful.

Dr. Elliot, of Connecticut, one of the oldest agricultural writers of New England, advanced the doctrine nearly, or quite, a hundred years ago, that if alders were cut in the wane of the moon when passing Leo, they would certainly bleed to death and never grow more. We have no doubt that there are certain times or stages of growth and circulation of the sap, in which, if cut, their growth will be checked—perhaps completely stopped,—more than if cut at other times, and that this is owing more to the condition of the circulation in the system of the alder itself, than to any power that the moon has—whether in its increase or decrease, or whether passing Leo or any of the other constellations or signs of the zodiac.

If that periodical condition occurs in August, then August is the proper time to lay the axe at their roots to ensure their destruction. Wouldn't it be well to try it now?

HOLDING UP THE MILK.

We often hear complaints about cows holding up their milk, and various methods are recommended by which they can be made to give it down. These modes are generally empirical, that is, given without understanding anything of the cause, and therefore mere *guess rules*.

A sure and unfailing remedy cannot be given until more is known of the way and manner in which the cow does it. She undoubtedly contracts some muscle or muscles which prevent the milk from flowing.

The pressure of the hand of the milker is counteracted by the pressure or contraction of the muscles, which the cow operates at her own will and pleasure. If somebody skilled in comparative anatomy would, by dissection of the milk apparatus, or in any other way, ascertain the true cause, and the mode in which that cause acts, he could clearly and understandingly point out a sure way to obviate any holding up of milk when it took place.

Some have recommended feeding the cow, in order to engage her attention to her food and render her pleasant and good-natured at the time. This succeeds, probably, as often as any way. Others recommend to hang heavy weights across her back. This puts a load on another set of muscles, and the cow has to exert her strength in another direction. Some have tied up the forelegs of the cow, thereby throwing her upon her knees, and causing her, as in the other case, to exert her strength on another set of muscles, and thus relax those she uses when holding up her milk.

The last method we have seen recommended is one by our neighbor John Stanley, who has been troubled with one of these notional cows. This is, when the cow holds up her milk, to pull down on the bag, once or twice, strongly and suddenly, giving what some would call a good yank. He says he always succeeds by so doing.

Why, we cannot tell. Perhaps it wears the muscles used in holding up the milk, and they relax,—or perhaps, the cow thinks that "discretion is the better part of valor," and she had better give down her milk than have her legs torn out by the roots.

For the Maine Farmer.

RISING ONIONS.

MR. EDITOR:—I noted, in the last number of the Maine Farmer, an inquiry relating to the culture of the onion. I am glad to offer my experience for the attention of you readers. I find no difficulty in raising this valuable esculent.

My method has been to sow the seed in suitable soil, and when the plants are from two to three inches high, I take common beef or pork brine, dilute it one-half with water, sprinkle it over the onion beds, and then wait the result. If I notice some of the plants to wither, I apply the brine again. Water saluted to the same amount will produce the same result—salt being effectually destructive to the maggot. I have now a flourishing bed of onions which I treated in this way.

ROBERT W. INSWOLD.

Fairfield, 8th mo. 4th, 1856.

SCOURS IN SHEEP.

The best remedy we know of for scouring in sheep, is milk thickened with wheat flour. A pint should be given twice a day till the unnatural discharge is stopped.

SPECIFIC MANURE FOR THE GRAPE.

We have been much interested with the purchase of a small work recently published by C. M. Saxton & Co., of New York, entitled "A New Process for the Vine, By Person." It is translated by J. O. C. Barclay, and anybody can have it for twenty-five cents, and he who cultivates grapes will find his money well laid out.

The author has devised a very good modification of the Thomyer method of training and pruning the vine.

What most particularly interested us, however, was his system of applying fertilizers, or manuring his vines. He professes to have ascertained a specific dressing for causing the vine to grow as to its roots and branches, and another specific for causing it to put forth fruit abundantly. We do not know how far specifics can be relied upon, but we have no doubt the articles used by him are good dressings for grapes.

His theory is that the wood of the grape requires phosphates, and also carbon, in order to make up its materials; while the grape, or fruit, requires potash and silica.

In one of his experiments, he says that in order to obtain all the possible development of the wood we set various vine stocks in trenches, at the bottom of which we had introduced about two pounds to the square yard of a compost formed

1—of coarsely pulverized bones (bone dust of commerce);

2—of clippings of leather, or fragments of horn.

We covered the whole of this with good stable manure mingled with earth.

Three vine shoots, a, b, c, thus treated in the spring of 1847, furnished wood as follows:—a. Isabella—one cane 23 feet 10 inches long, 3-4 inch diameter.

b. White Chasselas—19 feet 6 inches long, 1-2 inch diameter.

c. Rose Chasselas—14 feet six inches long, 2-3 inch diameter."

His object is first to develop the wood, or vine, and after develop the fruit bearing buds, &c.

He plants vines in trenches at convenient distances from each other, and, to develop wood, he applies "six pounds of bone dust, three pounds of clippings of skins or leather, shavings of horns, hoofs, blood, and one pound of plaster." He gives 1-20th of this mixture to a trench twelve yards long, one yard wide, and eighteen inches deep.

After the wood has been well developed and trained, directions to do which he lays down, he proceeds to give food from which the vine can make grapes.

To this end, he says, "we spread above the trench, at a distance of from two to three inches from the buried vine (we having used layers for stocks), four pounds per square yard of a mixture of eight pounds of silicate of potassa, two pounds of the double phosphate (superphosphate of commerce), of lime and potassa.

This siliicate of potassa is made by melting quartz with potash. Good beach sand will answer for this purpose. The sand and potassa will unite and form an imperfect glass which will dissolve in water.

[Ed.]

MILKING MACHINE.

A machine that would milk cows easily—quickly and completely, if simple in its operation and durable in its structure, and at the same time not injurious to the cows, would be a very popular machine among some.

Such a machine Mr. Kingman, of Dover, N. H., avers he has invented and is getting patented. He comes out with a very clear description of it in the New England Farmer and says it works "first rate." He takes a calf for his model and manufactures a machine calf, with four mouths, and sets him to sucking—substituting a pail for the calf's stomach—but we will let him tell his story as we find it in the New England Farmer:—

"In the first place, I take a large size pail, either of tin or wood, and fit on it a cover so as to make it air tight; then I construct a small pump in some compact form, so as to exhaust the air from the pail. The pump made for my experiments (and which is described in the application for a patent) is a part of the cover to the pail, and being flat and thin, works rapidly and without friction, and does not wear so as to leak. It is only necessary to produce a slight vacuum, such as a calf might make with his mouth. I then connect four small rubber tubes, about eighteen inches long, with the top of the pail; and on the other end of each of these tubes, I fix a little cup of tin, glass or any other convenient material, about two inches in diameter and three inches deep. Over the top of each of these cups is drawn a cap of thin, flexible rubber, having a sack or mouth in the centre, of sufficient size to receive the end of the cow's teat, with a small hole in the bottom for the milk to pass through. The cap fits to the top of the cup, air-tight, by its own contraction, and also hangs around the end of the teat, but by its flexibility permits a free flow of milk into the cup and through the rubber tube into the pail.

Having got the machine in readiness, I slip each of the cow's teats into one of the soft, flexible sacks or mouths, which can be done in an instant with the end of the thumb—the rubber clinging around the teats and holds the cups in place. I then commence pumping slowly and easily, and the milk flows in a large, steady stream from each teat, through the tube into the pail. The cow meantime, is quietly chewing her cud, hardly knowing that anything is going on; so perfectly is the teat sustained by the rubber sack, that the suction hardly affects it at all, and there is no pulling, or finching, or squeezing in any direction. All the while the milk is flowing at the rate of about two quarts per minute; at any rate, I have milked eight quarts of milk from my cow in four minutes, with a machine by no means perfect; because being the first and only one ever made, and got

up only to experiment with, it has suggested improvements which will be embodied hereafter; I am entirely satisfied that a child or woman can milk with this machine with perfect ease, faster than four milkers, either men or women, can milk by hand.

But the chiefest recommendation of the machine remains to be mentioned. The common method of milking by hand necessarily exposes the milk to more or less dust, dripping from the hands, and other kinds of filth, which often spoils its taste, and always gives one the idea that he is swallowing a disagreeable amount of unmentionable materials. Even the best and most careful milkers cannot avoid getting something into the pail that should not go there; this is proved by the universal custom of straining milk immediately after milking, in all cases, and by whosoever it may have been milked. But straining will not take out the drippings from the hands of careless, filthy milkers; and the result is, a very general complaint among consumers, of the bad taste of milk, often attributed to the adulteration or dishonesty of milkmen.

This disposition to sing in concert, has undoubtedly been observed in these birds by all who are familiar with them. Judging from appearances, this most cheerful and sociable of birds is as long to become extinct among us, as this is the case, it becomes a question of interest, what are the causes tending to this.

This machine, however, entirely obviates this unpleasant difficulty. The milk is drawn directly from the udder into a covered, air-tight pail, where no dust or drippings or filth can fall in, or be thrown by carelessness. The Irish girls cannot dip their hands into the pail to moisten the teats, as is their common practice, nor can the cow step into the pail, or kick it over, so as to spill the milk.

In short, I think the *milking machine* will be a great labor-saving improvement for the agricultural community, and a genuine comfort to both the cows and the consumers. Immediate efforts will be made, after obtaining a patent, to introduce the machine to the notice of the public, and to supply the market demand for it. It is not possible at present to say at what price they can be afforded, but probably they will not cost far from five dollars apiece."

THE HORSE IN THE STABLE.

If one would have a good horse on the road, he must take care of him in the stable. To the man who is fond of that noble animal, the stable, is no mean place which is the home of his faithful servant. A part of the secret of the differences among horses may be found in the different ways they are treated in the stable.

This building need not have the embellishments of architecture, nor be made air-tight; but it should be comfortable—made to promote the comfort of its occupant. It should be well ventilated, by allowing a draught of fresh air constantly to pass through it, especially during the warmer months. Do not allow the air of the stable to be made offensive and unhealthy, by the presence of ammonia escaping from the excrements. Keep the air in your stable as sweet as it is in your own house; for such is necessary for the health of a horse.

Plaster of the stable is soiled by the stable, it is said, with the excrements of horses, and the stable is said to be offensive and unhealthy, by the presence of ammonia escaping from the excrements. Keep the air in your stable as sweet as it is in your own house; for such is necessary for the health of a horse.

Plaster of the stable is soiled by the stable, it is said, with the excrements of horses, and the stable is said to be offensive and unhealthy, by the presence of ammonia escaping from the excrements. We are always glad to be set right, when we have made any mistake, and accordingly give Mr. P. a chance to give his side of the question.

For the Maine Farmer.

THE BOBOLINK.

MR. EDITOR:—If the subject is not too light to interest you and your readers, I should like to make some inquiries and a remark or two in regard to the disappearance of the bobolink from among us. Whether it is a fact of general observation through the state, or only confined to this locality, I know not. If there has been great diminution of the number of these merriest of feathered songsters, for the last twenty years in other localities as in this, it cannot have escaped the most common observation.

Indeed, I think there can scarcely be as many of these birds now in this town as I have in former days frequently seen collected from within hearing on a spreading tree, or on a cluster of bushes, for a morning concert.

This disposition to sing in concert, has undoubtedly been observed in these birds by all who are familiar with them. Judging from appearances, this most cheerful and sociable of birds is as long to become extinct among us, as this is the case, it becomes a question of interest, what are the causes tending to this.

We know that they are extremely sensitive to disturbance or molestation in their domestic affairs, and also very cautious and cunning in approaching and leaving their nests so as to elude observation; but as they almost always make their nests in the grass field, they are frequently mown over before the young are fledged, and I have noted that in these cases, or in case of any disturbance, the old ones will forsake their nests. But as to the extent of the loss I am speaking of, or its causes, I write to you.

E. PRATT, JR.

Freepost, July 21, 1856.

annexed circulars, authenticated, also, by men of highest rank and standing in society, good substantial wire fence, with common ordinary care, is well worthy of attention. Having examined, carefully, specimens erected in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, on the lands of Dr. Wistar, as well as a considerable range in the grounds of G. W. Taylor, of Burlington, I am fully convinced, from personal observation, as well as the statements of the owners, that, notwithstanding the severity of our frosts, there are many instances in this State where its erection would prove of considerable advantage, were it even from no other cause than the prevention of snow drifts, which from its light and unobtrusive fabric it almost completely prevents.

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AUGUSTA:
THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 14, 1856.

IS THERE ANY TROUBLE?

There is an abundance of health in this section of the Union, abundance of food and freedom to act. Who would suppose that if the people cannot get along happily under such circumstances, there must be some inherent trouble within their own breasts, if there is any trouble?

What trouble there is appears to be of a business character, and is undoubtedly the result of former management. At present in this State the lumber business is dull—ship-building is dull—manufacturing is dull, and money rather scarce; some who pretend to be posted up, or down in such matters, say it is decidedly *tight*. What then is the trouble?

A few years past—Yankee like, our people have overdone—gone beyond what was really demanded—cut more lumber, built more shipping, and entered into more land speculations than was really required, and we must now suffer the reaction consequent on such doings until an equilibrium is restored in the business and financial channels.

There is another cause of much of the fluctuations of business matters among us which has ever seemed to us unnecessary, and impolitic, and that is, our depending too much on foreign productions, whether for common use or for luxury. This keeps the balance of trade with foreign countries against us, and as a very natural consequence our money must be sent away to meet our debts. Every body can see that.

If a farmer does not sell to the merchant, of whom he purchases articles which he cannot himself produce, enough of butter and cheese, and grain, and beef and pork, to pay what he owes him at the end of the year he must pay over the money, and the doing of this often makes a scarcity in the old wallet at home.

So it is with the nation, and we thus see that we are constantly sending ship-load after ship-load of specie to Europe, in order to pay Europeans for the balance we owe them. It very

seems that the more cotton, and flour, and lumber, &c., we send them, the more specie they demand, and the harder times grow at home.

Millions and millions of gold come during the year from California into the Atlantic ports, but it hardly remains long enough to be counted before it is shipped for Europe, our own country left with as little as ever, and the times continually hard. Is there in reality any need of this?

Do we not, independent as we fancy ourselves to be, depend too much on foreign products? With ore enough to supply the universe with the best of iron and steel, we look to the seafarers of Russia and the operatives of England for thirty-one millions of dollars worth of merchandise of that article. With a sufficiency of material to make railroad iron enough to span the earth on almost every tenth circle of latitude and longitude, we look to England for every inch of it we use, and pay hard dollars for it. With a capacity to raise wool sufficient to clothe in the best of cloth, every man, woman and child in the Union, we kill off our sheep—dismantle our looms—buy of the European manufacturer, and pay hard dollars for it to the tune of twenty-six millions, and so of a host of other articles.

Why shouldn't business be dull, and money scarce? It avails but little in a business point that the earth yields abundantly if all are producers. All over and above what is needed for the subsistence of the producer is a drug. But if we depended less on foreign manufacturers and let our own mechanics and manufacturers produce that which we now buy across the ocean, business would assume a more healthy and prosperous action. There would be a reciprocal action between our own producers and consumers, each would require and purchase the goods of the other, and what money came in from other sources would be retained among us, and invested in such a way as to make the people, and thereby the nation, truly independent and prosperous.

THE BOWDOIN COMMENCEMENT.

The Telegraph contains a full account of the Commencement at Bowdoin College, last week. The attendance was rather slim, owing to the bad weather. At the prize declamation of the Junior class, the first prize, \$20, was awarded to Samuel B. Stewart, of Farmington, and the second, \$10, to James F. Howes, of Saco. The prizes for the Sophomores, \$5 each, were borne off by Charles P. Loring, of Danville, and Samuel G. Philbrook, of Lewiston.

The graduating class numbered 32, among whom were George Robinson, and Wm. Gaslin, Jr., of this city, Cyrus H. Carlton, Monmouth & Mass., O. Brown, Portland; and Samuel W. Tenney, Norridgewock. The Telegraph speaks in terms of praise of Robinson's exercise, "The Power of Thought."

The degree of Master of Arts, was conferred in course, upon several individuals, among them Wm. P. Drew, and Melville W. Fuller, late of this city. The honorary degree of A.M. was conferred upon John L. Library, Cambridge, Mass., and Rev. Chas. Ayer, Brunswick.

Vacancies existing in the Board of Directors were filled by the election of Messrs. Charles A. Lord, and W. W. Thomas, of Portland, Erastus Foote, Jr., of Wiscasset, and Rev. E. B. Webb, of Augusta.

The concert by Dodworth's Band, on Tuesday evening, is highly spoken of. The Telegraph says:—"With the exception of a few pieces, which were hardly the thing for such a Concert, the programme was the best one we have ever had."

LATEST REPORTS. In Iowa, the Republicans a majority of 4,500.

Official returns from 38 counties in Missouri, show the following state of the vote:—Folk 21,834; Ewing 22,573; Benton 14,777. The reported majorities increase the aggregate so as to give Folk 82 majority over Ewing.

The Democrats have carried North Carolina, by about 8000 majority.

The Democratic gain, thus far, in Kentucky, is about 7,500.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING. On Saturday last, about 1 o'clock, as a young man named LeBaron, belonging in Rome, was crossing from the east side of the river, on the top of the railroad bridge, he was struck by lightning and instantly killed. He was taken on the noon train, which came along immediately after the accident, and brought to the depot. The lightning after leaving the body, followed the rails along to the south end of the depot, when it left the track with a report like a pistol. Several persons who were in the depot at the time were somewhat affected by the electricity, but fortunately no one else was hurt.

COMMENCEMENT AT WATERVILLE. The annual commencement at Waterville College occurs this week, commencing to-day, Tuesday, with the anniversary of the Literary Fraternity, and Erosophian Adelphi. The oration before these Societies is to be delivered by Rev. J. P. Thompson, of New York, and the poem by W. C. Williamson, of Boston. The exercises of the graduating class take place on Wednesday. Music is to be furnished by the Germania Band, of Boston, who will give a concert, on Wednesday evening, at the Baptist Church. Excursion trains on the different railroads leave Waterville at the close of the concert.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.

Seldom have we had such a long continuance of wet weather as for the last fortnight. For the eleven days preceding Sunday last, we had hardly a glimpse of the sun. Rain, fog and mist were the order of the day. On Friday and Saturday of last week, we experienced the heaviest rain-storm of many years. The rain fairly fell in torrents. The sidewalks, places, were considerably washed, and the streets made good representations of juvenile rivers. On Sunday, the blue sky made its appearance, and to-day, Monday, the weather has been clear and warm. The corn, in many of the gardens in this city, was badly beaten down and broken by the wind and rain. We hear, also, that the damage to corn and wheat, in neighboring towns, from this cause, is somewhat considerable. The corn may, however, get up. We noticed some which was flat on Saturday, and to-day is nearly half-way up again.

Since July came in, the weather has been very wet. A gentleman in this city, who has kept a record of the weather, informs us that, up to Sunday, there has been not a day in which rain did not fall during some part of the twenty-four hours, since the first of July. Of course, considerate, however, has been spoiled, but what portion we cannot say.

The rains were very heavy last week, throughout Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. On Tuesday night, over four inches of rain fell in Boston—about one-fourth of the average fall for a year. At Springfield the rain gauge showed 44 inches, and at Williamson, eight inches. (We think there must be some mistake about this. The railroads were badly washed in many places.) The Connecticut river was swollen higher than for many years. The Merrimack river also rose considerably.

The rain of Friday was also very heavy in Massachusetts. The Traveller, of Saturday, says:—

"The severe rain storm of yesterday afternoon and last evening, did considerable damage upon the roads and low lands in the country in this vicinity, which for the second time this week were flooded with water. In many places whole acres are submerged to the depth of from six to twelve and fifteen inches. A large amount of property lying out on the ground was ruined.

Under President's bridge, near Quincy, on the Old Colony Railroad, the water accumulated so rapidly from the surrounding embankments, that it became a lake there, and ran upon the flumes of the cars as they passed through it. The fire under the boiler of one of the locomotives was also extinguished.

The lightning during the day and evening was quite sharp, and struck in several places.

The crops, so far as we can learn, will be good. As we have remarked above, we cannot, as yet, say how the recent storms may affect them. The Springfield Republican of the 5th says that a very severe drought has been experienced in that region. Corn and potatoes, grass, garden vegetables, everything green and growing have been dried up, and in high and dry localities thoroughly burnt up, and killed. A field of corn in West Springfield, which three weeks ago was acknowledged to be the tallest and thickest in town, was sold on Monday for five dollars per acre, and cut up for cattle fodder. A refreshing and abundant rain on Monday evening, however, moistened the parched earth and gladdened the heart of the people. Since then, large quantities of rain have fallen, so that the drought must be effectually broken up.

A correspondent writing from Franklin, Mass., under date of the 5th inst., says:—"Nearly all the farmers here have finished harvesting, and the hay now lies in the barns in good order. Corn is coming on finely, and we anticipate a very fair crop. I never saw potatoes looking better. Some of the farmers here, thinking that some folks can do some things as well as others, have sowed a field of wheat, which looks finely, and is nearly ready to harvest. We expect an abundant supply of apples to harvest: the trees hang very full of the fruit, but the ravages of the aphid, I judge, will spare the farmer some toil in the fall. Vegetables are growing amazingly."

New York and vicinity were also visited by the rain of the 5th, much to the benefit of the growing crops.

The Savannah, Ga., News, of the 1st inst., says:—

"We are gratified to learn from our interior exchanges that the country has, within a week past, been visited with refreshing rains, and that there is at present a fair prospect that the crops will recover from the effects of the late drought."

STATE ELECTIONS.

On Monday of last week, elections were held in Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky, Iowa, Alabama, and Texas. Also, on Thursday, in North Carolina and Tennessee. At the present time, the returns received are not sufficient to show for a certainty which way the elections have turned. We gather the following from the telegraphic despatches:—

In Missouri, the returns thus far look favorable for the Democrats. There were three tickets in the field—Benton, anti-Benton (or democratic), and American-headed respectively by Thos. H. Benton, Tristen Polk, and Robert C. Ewing. In the St. Louis district Mr. Benton was some 2000 ahead of his competitors, but his vote falls now in the back counties. The result is still doubtful. Francis P. Blair, Jr., clased at the Sixth Congressional district, the Democrats having won the election, for Representative to Congress from the Second district, in place of J. J. Perry, declined. Isaac Gross of Turner was nominated for Elector.

A democratic convention was held at New-York, on Friday, and Abraham Sanborn, Esq., of Bangor, was nominated for Representative to Congress from the Fifth Congressional district, and Joe W. Eaton, of Plymouth, for Elector.

At the last session of the Legislature, acts were passed incorporating the City, Village, People's, Nezinscot, Bank of Enterprise, and Fairfield Bank; also increasing the capital stock of the American, Auburn, Bath, Calais, Casco, City (Bath), Manufacturers' and Traders', and People's Banks. An act also passed to reduce the stock of the Veazie Bank, Bangor, \$100,000.

CONVENTIONS. During the past week, several political conventions were held at various points in this State.

In Augusta, the whigs of the Fourth Congressional district, held a convention at Winthrop Hall, on Thursday last. Hon. David Bronson, of Bath, was nominated as candidate for Representative to Congress, and George C. Gotchell, of Anson, for Elector of President.

On Tuesday, 5th inst., a Republican convention was held at Auburn, when Charles J. Gilman, of Brunswick, was nominated for Representative to Congress from the Second district, in place of H. C. Stewart, of Farmington, and the second, \$10, to James F. Howes, of Saco. The prizes for the Sophomores, \$5 each, were borne off by Charles P. Loring, of Danville, and Samuel G. Philbrook, of Lewiston.

The graduating class numbered 32, among whom were George Robinson, and Wm. Gaslin, Jr., of this city, Cyrus H. Carlton, Monmouth & Mass., O. Brown, Portland; and Samuel W. Tenney, Norridgewock. The Telegraph speaks in terms of praise of Robinson's exercise, "The Power of Thought."

The degree of Master of Arts, was conferred in course, upon several individuals, among them Wm. P. Drew, and Melville W. Fuller, late of this city. The honorary degree of A.M. was conferred upon John L. Library, Cambridge, Mass., and Rev. Chas. Ayer, Brunswick.

Vacancies existing in the Board of Directors were filled by the election of Messrs. Charles A. Lord, and W. W. Thomas, of Portland, Erastus Foote, Jr., of Wiscasset, and Rev. E. B. Webb, of Augusta.

The concert by Dodworth's Band, on Tuesday evening, is highly spoken of. The Telegraph says:—"With the exception of a few pieces, which were hardly the thing for such a Concert, the programme was the best one we have ever had."

LATEST REPORTS. In Iowa, the Republicans a majority of 4,500.

Official returns from 38 counties in Missouri, show the following state of the vote:—Folk 21,834; Ewing 22,573; Benton 14,777. The reported majorities increase the aggregate so as to give Folk 82 majority over Ewing.

The Democrats have carried North Carolina, by about 8000 majority.

The Democratic gain, thus far, in Kentucky, is about 7,500.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING. On Saturday last, about 1 o'clock, as a young man named LeBaron, belonging in Rome, was crossing from the east side of the river, on the top of the railroad bridge, he was struck by lightning and instantly killed. He was taken on the noon train, which came along immediately after the accident, and brought to the depot. The lightning after leaving the body, followed the rails along to the south end of the depot, when it left the track with a report like a pistol. Several persons who were in the depot at the time were somewhat affected by the electricity, but fortunately no one else was hurt.

COMMENCEMENT AT WATERVILLE. The annual commencement at Waterville College occurs this week, commencing to-day, Tuesday, with the anniversary of the Literary Fraternity, and Erosophian Adelphi. The oration before these Societies is to be delivered by Rev. J. P. Thompson, of New York, and the poem by W. C. Williamson, of Boston. The exercises of the graduating class take place on Wednesday. Music is to be furnished by the Germania Band, of Boston, who will give a concert, on Wednesday evening, at the Baptist Church. Excursion trains on the different railroads leave Waterville at the close of the concert.

AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

GATHERED NEWS FRAGMENTS, &c.

KNICKERBOCKER MAGAZINE. A pleasant number we have found the Knickerbocker for August. The leading paper, on the "Subtleties of Scott's Names," is of much interest to all who have perused the works of the great novelist. The contributions which follow are all good, and the Editor's Table excellent, considering the hot weather which prevailed when it was prepared. We have put our mark on some of the good things, for future presentation to our readers.

LITTLE LIVING AGE. Among the selections in the number (338) for the present week are the following:—"Fish Ponds and Fishing Boats;" "The Art of Story-Telling;" "Billed in Boulogne;" "Life in Brazil;" "Curacies;" "Payche Willan;" two articles on the troubles between England and the United States, from the Economist and Press; "The Renegade Soldiers of Turkey;" several choice pieces of poetry; and a number of interesting short articles.

The Living Age is a complete epitome of the standard literature of the day, and should find a place upon the table of every one who has a taste for reading, or who wishes to keep himself informed on all the important questions of the age we live in. Published weekly, by Little, Son & Co., Boston, at \$6 per annum.

NEW YORK JOURNAL. The August number of Frank Leslie's New York Journal contains the continuation of "Leila; or the Star of Magonia,"—a tale of considerable interest, with many other interesting articles, among which are "England Sixty years ago;" "Josephine;" "A Trip to Havre de Grace;" "The Prison Ships and Prisons of 1776;" "How Mr. Cranberry came to leave his Lodgings;" &c. &c. It is embellished by numerous well-executed wood cuts. Published by F. Leslie, 12 Spruce St., N. Y., at \$2 per annum.

NATIONAL MAGAZINE. The number for the present month opens with a paper entitled "Scandinavian Sketches," quite interesting, and appropriately illustrated. A sketch of the country, &c., "From Cairo to Heliopolis," is well written, and of much interest. Among the other contributions is a valuable paper on "Earthquakes and Volcanoes." This is one of the most valuable and readable family magazines that we receive. It is conducted with great ability, and numbers among its contributors many able writers. Published by Carlton & Porter, New York, at \$2 per annum.

BARNUM'S PROPERTY UNDER THE HAMMER. A lot of notes, bonds and real estate, the property of P. T. Barnum, were sold at auction in New York, Tuesday, by order of court, for the benefit of Mr. Barnum's creditors in the clock concern. Ten bonds of the Crystal Palace, of \$100 each, sold for \$25 apiece. A promissory note, signed by John Greenleaf, Jr., for \$2582, was sold for \$805 to that individual—a pretty good discount. H. D. Butler also bought his own note for \$800, for \$375. The other property went much after the same rate of depreciation. The total amount realized from the sales was \$4770.

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THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

THE LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.



ARRIVAL OF THE ASIA.

The steamship Asia, with three days later news, arrived at New York on Thursday last. Her news, except from Spain, not of special importance. We make the following summary:—

ENGLAND. Parliament had had a discussion on Spanish affairs. Lord Palmerston, in answer to a question, stated that there was nothing to present which could lead in any way to interference of the French government in the affairs of Spain; that the Emperor of France, as a just man, would feel that foreign interference would be unjust, he was also a man of great sagacity, and events had shown that interference in Spanish difficulties had been attended with disaster to those interfering. There was no reason, he said for apprehending that Napoleon had any such intention.

Smith O'Brien has declined an invitation to stand for the Parliamentary seat of James Sutherland.

Government has determined to erect fortifications along the west and northeast coast of Scotland.

The London Times mentions a project to start a line of steamers between Odessa and New York, touching at Marseilles and Smyrna.

The London (Saturday) Morning Advertiser says the American question may be regarded as virtually settled, and will probably be announced in a speech by Her Majesty on the prorogation of Parliament. The terms agreed on are that the Bay Islands revert to Honduras, that Republic itself never to cede them to any other power, or allow interference in their affairs. America heartily acquiesces in this arrangement, and joins in the tripartite treaty with Honduras to carry the agreement into effect. France is also a consenting party to the agreement, and has expressed its readiness to sign the treaty, if desired.

The weather in England had been showery, and favorable to agricultural purposes.

The Conund steamer Zebra, plying between Liverpool and Havre, went ashore on Lizard Point. Crew and passengers saved; also a portion of the cargo. The vessel is full of water.

FRANCE. The intentions of the French government regarding Spain are a subject of much speculation in Paris. It is said if O'Donnell is successful, France can have no occasion to interfere. On the other hand, should the Liberals succeed, and the Queen required to abdicate in favor of the Princess of Austria, with Separatist regent, neither would France interfere. But if the Duchess Montpensier should become neutral to the throne, should a republic be produced, then France would invade Spain.

Prince Lucien Bonaparte has gone on a mission to Madrid.

SPAIN. Advice from Spain to the 18th gives official account of the insurrection. The National Guard were entirely disarmed, and domestic visits were being made to secure all arms in the hands of the citizens. Numerous arrests were made. The killed of the royal troops are estimated at forty or fifty, and 150 wounded. The loss of the insurgents is not known. The fighting at Barcelona lasted two days. A portion of the troops at Saragossa remained faithful to the Queen. Government was removing all available troops to this last stronghold of the insurrectionists, with orders not to fight in the streets, but to bombard the city from the adjoining hills. O'Donnell is expected to receive news in a few days of the submission of Saragossa, and with it of the whole country to his government.

Later advice announces Madrid tranquil. Espartero was still there, but O'Donnell had offered his services to any part of Spain, or abroad. Private accounts say the royal troops showed great ferocity at the Madrid rising, having butchered several companies of the National Guard after surrendering. Marshal Narvaez offered his services to O'Donnell when the affair commenced. He has been appointed Minister to Paris.

The Duke of Alba, brother-in-law to the Emperor of France, had been appointed Mayor of Madrid. Espartero had sought refuge in the British Embassy.

Paris, 24th. The royal troops are masters of every point at Barcelona, but still remain under arms. Preparations are making to execute all taken with arms.

Gerona, where Gen. Ruiz commands the garrison, has risen.

The London Sun says that 1200 were killed in the streets of Barcelona. The people fought behind barricades with determined courage for three days, when their leaders deserted them.

The Spanish Government had issued a pro-gamme of policy, which is theoretically very liberal.

A number of arrests had been made in Paris of persons who had formed groups in the streets, taking of Spanish affairs.

Nothing important from other parts of Europe.

LATER—ARRIVAL OF THE ANGLO-SAXON.

The propeller, Anglo-Saxon arrived at Quebec on Sunday, bringing four days later news. We have the following concerning the state of the markets:—

Wheat and flour have slightly declined, the decline being mostly in inferior grades.

The Liverpool Cotton Market was firm, but quiet, at the prices current on the sailing of the Asia.

The London Money Market exhibited no new feature, and consols were firm at about previous rates.

The following summary embraces everything of interest in the news by this arrival:—

GREATER BRITAIN. The British Parliament was prorogued on the 23rd ult., until the 7th of October next.

Previous to adjournment, Mr. Berkley asked Lord Palmerston when the government would re-appoint consuls at New York, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati.

Lord Palmerston replied that the government had not as yet, taken any steps in reference to the matter.

The proceedings of Parliament were without interest in other respects.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH was delivered to both houses of Parliament on the 23rd ult. Her majesty thanks her lords and gentlemen in Parliament for their usual assiduity in public duties, especially for their support during the past war. Her majesty says that the prosperity of the nation was not materially checked by the war, but expresses hopes that the general prosperity of her subjects will be augmented by the peace. The royal speech then proceeds to say that her majesty is engaged in negotiations on the subject of cessions in connection with her wars with America, and that the differences which have arisen out of those cessions between her government and that of the United States may be satisfactorily adjusted. Her majesty takes the opportunity to thank India and her other colonies for their aid afforded during the past war. The remainder of the speech is wholly devoted to home affairs, particularly to the police, Cambridge University, joint stock companies, courts, and the coast-guard. Her majesty closes with the usual compliments to the gendarmes of the house of Commons.

The special committee of the British House of Commons have made their report in relation to the Danish Sound, but they do not suggest any precise mode of adjustment of their vexed question. They, however, argue an immediate and final settlement of the matter, if possible by negotiation.

We have nothing new from the late seat of war, excepting a reported serious disagreement respecting the boundaries between Russia and Turkey.

SPAIN. Our advice from Spain contains meager and unreliable, the telegraph and public roads being in the hands of the government, whose announcements say that on the 24th ult., the royal troops commenced to bombard the city of Saragossa, five days after the insurgents within was granted.

The information conveyed to the London press, however, states that although the city of Mad-

rid is quiet, the whole of the important province of Aragon continues in successful revolt.

Newspaper correspondents further report that Gen. O'Donnell and the Queen have already had disagreements, and that it is not improbable that Norvex would succeed to the Ministry.

The Paris Moniteur contains an editorial extract from General O'Donnell in regard to the present difficulties in Spain.

The same paper also announces that the Spanish Junta has decreed to the infant son of the Emperor of France the rights of Spanish citizenship.

ITALY. From Italy, we have a statement by telegraph of a revolt in the Duchy of Massa-Carrara. We are, however, without any reliable particulars.

The Austrian officials state that the movement was insignificant, and that it was promptly suppressed.

INDIA AND CHINA. The Anglo-Saxon brings Bombay dates of the 25th, and Shanghai to the 2d. The crops of tea and silk are reported very abundant.

THE ANTHRACITE COAL TRADE. The Miner's Journal of the 2d inst., states that the shipment of coal from the Schuylkill region fell off 97-100 during the previous week from the corresponding last year, and that the production from all the regions fell 171,400 tons less than last year at this time. The increase of production last year at this time over the year before, was 347,848 tons, which added to the 97-100 of the current year, makes a difference of 100 to 74—two-thirds being necessary.

The House passed a bill providing for the appointment of a committee for running a boundary line between the territories and the British possessions, under the Oregon treaty.

An amendment appropriating \$300,000 for the construction of the Washington Aqueduct was lost by 25 majority.

Without disposing of the bill the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, Aug. 4.

SENATE. Mr. Wilson offered a resolution which lies over, instructing the Committee on Indian Affairs to report a resolution authorizing the President to direct the District Attorney to enter a *prosecution* on each indictment against the Free State Kansas offenders, and to direct the same to be tried at the trial of the men.

Mr. Weller moved the consideration of the Pacific Railroad bill, but there being no quorum present, the bill was adjourned.

Mr. Weller moved the bill, and the same was referred to the Select Committee.

Mr. Weller moved the bill, and the House adjourned.

Mr. Weller made a speech on the wrongs of Kansas, after which the Senate adjourned.

SENATE. The House passed the Senate bill authorizing any two Judges of the Court Claims to act as a quorum for the transaction of business, and providing for the appointment of a Solicitor and an additional Clerk.

On motion of Mr. Zollieford, the Military Committee was instructed to inquire into the property of purchasing the Hermitage, in Tennessee, for a Branch of the U. S. Cavalry.

The House passed a bill providing for the appointment of a committee for running a boundary line between the territories and the British possessions, under the Oregon treaty.

The House again refused to suspend the rules, by 108 to 74, to enable Mr. Denver to report the Pacific Railroad bill.

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THE MAINE FARMER: AN

The Muse.

ALICE.

Bright star amid the cloud-forms of the past,
Alice my gaze is fixed on thee;
There is the look you turned upon me last;
And in your face the same serenity,
The same high faith upon your noble brow;
O, fade not gentle vision from above;
For, in my thought, you are more beauteous now.
Then when you lured me on and made me love.

Beside the river once I walk'd with you;

It may be you forgot so small a thing;

In evening's tint faded the heaven blue;

The dark trees humming, the wind murmuring,

The babbling tide: these tuneful sounds I heard;

Set to your voice, that o'er my sense stole:

Perchance you did not know that every word

Was like a silver link to chain my soul.

Then came the hopes and fears of hidden love;

Wherever you went, it was a blessed place,

Haunted, I dreamed, with angels from above;

My sweetest joy was to behold your face.

I longed to do you some great good—then die;

That which you touched was sacred; still I hold

(Poor relic of the precious days gone by)

A few words writh by you, more dear than gold.

I deem you little less than gods;

Although you led me on to love in vain;

For, where you could not love, I did not score;

You were too kind to give me needless pain.

I was your private slave if you but smiled,

And still I madly hoped your love to win;

And wept to know, "she thinks me but a child,

And dreams not of the fate that burns within."

I saw you stand, with him to whom you gave

Your plighted troth, upon the ocean shore;

And as your glance mingled in the wave,

I felt that you were one for evermore;

And, like a coward soul, I could not speak—

I conquer now, rejoicing in your fate;

And with the light of morning's gradual dawn,

My soul expanded into nobler life.

The Story-Teller.

AN ADVENTURE IN THE WRONG HOUSE.

BY DR. D. MONTGOMERY BIRD.

The following is, we believe, a somewhat old story, but, as it is a capital one of its kind, we take the liberty of laying it before our readers—knowing that those who have not read it before will have some hearty laughs, and those who have, at least a succession of smiles:

I know not what extraordinary conjunction of the stars took place on the first Friday of June, 183—nor how my planet in particular, came to perform so many antics, in or out of its proper sphere. Before that day, I had never had an adventure in my life; the current of my existence had flowed as evenly and quietly as skill of author-craft could have spanned my biography beyond the compass of a single paragraph. I was born, and I lived for twenty-five years—that is all: I lived in a village, too, and my name was (as it now is), James J. Smith. There was nothing further in my history worthy of being mentioned; except that, at twenty-five years old, finding myself unencumbered by any near relatives, and possessed of a moderate estate, sufficient for all my reasonable wants, (and I had no unreasonable ones,) I began to be weary of my rather dull and lonely existence, and cast about for some means of relief. I was balancing between two great projects, one of travel, the other of matrimony; both, indeed, in any honest way, to the hand of the rich "young lady," referred to by the note-holder, and doubtless the fair E—, of the letter. I felt that I should pun, if not defeat, the schemes of a rogue, and, perhaps, protect a deserving girl and a deceived parent, by keeping Mr. T. B.—'s letter in my pocket, and into my pocket accordingly, I thrust it. At all events, the interpretation of the letter would produce a delay; and delay might effect the desired purpose.

I spent the remainder of the afternoon rambling about the city, viewing it, and, as I thought to the last moment, without further adventure. But just as I was hunting my way back to my boarding-house to tea, I was stopped by a sharp but rather timid-looking young fellow, who begged my pardon, believed I was Mr. James J. Smith, reminded me that I owed a very long bill to his employers, Messrs. Snip & Shears, hinted that they had written to me two or three times on the subject, observed that times were hard, and concluded by insinuating the pleasure I would confer upon those gentlemen if I would be so good as to walk with him forthwith, down to their shop—which was only seven or eight squares off.

I replied to all this, that he had mistaken his man; that I owed Messrs. Snip & Shears nothing; and upon his presuming to express some indignation at the denial, I threatened to break his bones: upon which he became alarmed and retreated. But I observed him following me at a distance, and dogging me all the way to my boarding-house.

After tea, having no acquaintance in the city I went into one of the theatres to pass the evening, and passed it, in the main very pleasantly. I was, indeed, one time annoyed by the conduct of two or three well dressed, but noisy fellows in the next box, who, from their discourse, I soon set down as gamblers and determined rogues. One of them, who had red hair, I observed was very genteel in his appearance, but he was an abandoned desperado in his conversation; and from some remarks that he and his companions let fall, I was struck with the sudden suspicion that he was no less a personage than my worthy namesake, Mr. James J. Smith himself. Thus, in the midst of their laughing and whispering, I over heard the expressions, "Old Rusty," "the girl," "rich and confoundedly handsome," "hard-headed old hunk," &c., and Mr. Redhead himself swore with an oath, "if the blood-suckers would give him but two days, he would hold up his hand again with the best of them." I tried in vain to catch the fellow's name; and soon after he had uttered the words related, another young man came into the box and told him "there were hawks on the wing;" upon which he looked alarmed, his companions laughed, and they all immediately left the theatre.

I could then attend the performance without interruption; and I had been for some time absorbed in the interests of the scene, when I was suddenly aroused by a voice whispering in my ear—"I say, Mr. James J. Smith, this is no place for a gentleman of your inches. There are buzzards abroad, who'll stop all marrying and giving in marriage. And if you mean to give up that chance, hang me, my fine fellow if I shant, be the first to arrest you."

I went accordingly to Philadelphia, and at Harry's suggestion, took lodgings at a fashionable boarding-house, at which he intended stopping, where I designed to await him.

It was on Friday, in the afternoon, that I arrived; and having established myself in a comfortable chamber, I saluted out to see somewhat of the city, and inquire at the post-office for letters from my friend. I received two letters, one from Harry of a somewhat mysterious quality: the other from a stranger, and of a character still more inexplicable; both of them written from Baltimore. Harry informed me that he was on the way with his party, and hoped to be in Philadelphia on the following day; and he added (and this was the mysterious part of the letter,) that his aforesaid handsome cousin was about to be snatched away from me by a particular fatality, yet he did not despair, he said, of my yet winning her, provided he should immediately find me on reaching Philadelphia, and find me with means sufficient to undertake a most formidable, but splendid adventure.

"Confound his handsome cousin!" said I, "whom I never heard of before, except in his last letter; and confound his splendid adventures!" And with that, with the greatest equanimity, I banished the memory of both, to examine and wonder over my second letter from my unknown correspondent. It was as follows:

"MY DEAR BOY:—Shall be in Philadelphia Friday evening, according to sign, seal, kiss and squabble, in time to compact; place aforementioned. Shall expect you—rings, posies, blouses, and hysterics. Always promised your dad I would, and I will.

Your's resolutely, T. B."

This letter was formally directed to James J. Smith, Esq., "poste restante," Philadelphia, was manifestly written on an old man's hand; and as far as I could gather any sense from its odd and broken sense, alluded to a marriage which was in progress doubtless between E—, (who was she?) on the one part, and Mr. James J. Smith on the other. But who was Mr. James J. Smith? Not myself, certainly; who had never dreamt of marriage, except as a contingency, and had never made serious love or proposals to any human being. No, it was apparent—and this was confirmed by the allusion to the "aforementioned place," well known of course to the person written to but not to me—that there was some other James J. Smith, besides myself in the world, and in Philadelphia, for whom this letter was designed, and to whom it was manifested from the terms of it, the loss might prove extremely inconvenient.

Under these circumstances, I perceived I had nothing to do but return it to the post-office, that it might reach my namesake, and I was retarding my steps for that purpose, when I was interrupted by a gentleman, or a person dressed

like a gentleman, but I thought there was something unpleasing and sinister in his looks, who stepped up to me, and with a low bow and grinning smile, told me, "he believed he had the pleasure of addressing Mr. James J. Smith?"

"That is certainly my name," said I, "but—" "You haven't the honor of my acquaintance!" interrupted the gentleman. "Exactly so, but I have the pleasure of producing my note of introduction."

And with that, the fellow clapping one hand on my shoulder in a very impudent, familiar way, displayed under my nose, not a note of introduction but a note of hand for some seventeen or eighteen hundred dollars drawn in favor of Simon somebody, I forgot who, and signed plainly and strongly enough "James J. Smith."

"All this, my friend," said I, removing his hand from off my shoulder, "I doubtless good and fair enough. The difficulty is, that it concerns some other James J. Smith, not me; for I never wrote that note, nor indeed, any other. You have made a mistake."

"Very facetious," said the person. "I should inform you, sir, that poor Simon being in difficulty, was under the necessity of parting with little note to me sir; and I paid him a fair price for it, sir, because it was a debt of honor, sir," here the rascal looked as if he meant to impress me with an awful sense of his courage and determination; a debt of honor, sir, I never find any difficulty in collecting."

"The deuce take you and your debt of honor," said I, waxing impatient. "I tell you, sir—" but my gentleman made me again. "I say, Sakey," he murmured, "why did you bolt the gate? Why didn't you let me in? Why don't you speak? I know you are there, for I heard you. And now, you jade, I've caught you." In fact, he had. But no sooner did his fingers come in contact with a whiskered cheek and velvet coat-collar, than he uttered a dismal cry. "Oh, Lord! it's a man!" and turned to retreat.

But I had the advantage of him, and was nearest the door, just as the scheming Susan, perhaps alarmed at the bustle, came running into the room with a light; but at the sight of me she was so terrified that both she and her light dropped on the floor together, the latter going out in the fall; so that I had just time to notice that she was a buxom wench of eighteen or twenty, that the door was left wide open, and the passage to which it led was an exact counterpart of that in the boarding-house upon which my chamber lay; to which, therefore, I felt I could make my way without further trouble. It was under a sudden impulse, and with the idea of punishing the treacherous chambermaid, that, as I stepped out, I closed and locked the door, for I felt the key was on the outside, and so left her and Jimmy to settle their difficulties as they might.

I fol along the passage for the third door, which I had no doubt led to my chamber. I reached it, and was in the act of scratching about with my fingers for the knob, when the gate itself was thrown open, and, upon my rushing in, it was immediately closed again and bolted behind me; and this, I was certain, without my having been seen from without; for none of my pursuers had got into the valley. I tried the latch, it did not yield; but I had not withdrawn my hand when the gate itself was thrown open, and, upon my rushing in, it was immediately closed again and bolted behind me; and this, I was certain, without my having been seen from without; for none of my pursuers had got into the valley. 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